

## Jennifer Smeltzer

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**From:** Bill Benoit <bbenoit@cascadetwp.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 3:09 PM  
**To:** Rep. Ray Franz  
**Cc:** Jennifer Smeltzer  
**Subject:** House Bill 5102

The Honorable Ray Franz  
Chairman House Regulatory Reform Committee

I am writing to you to indicate my opposition to House Bill 5102. As a retired firefighter after 25 years, the last 18 years as a Fire Chief I understand some of the concerns the fire service has regarding construction in the State of Michigan but these changes to Public Act 230 is not the way to address them. I have been a registered building inspector in Michigan for over 25 years and I have been very active in the construction codes including serving on many Michigan code review committees, the Advisory Rules Committee (ARC) for Permitting and Inspecting, was appointed to the Construction Code Commission by Governor Granholm in 2008, reappointed in 2011 & 2015 by Governor Snyder and currently serve as Chair of the Commission.

The Fire Service has many opportunities to be involved in the code development process including being eligible to vote during the International Code Council code change committee meetings and final action hearings, their representation on Michigan code review committees and public hearings for Rule changes. The Construction Code Commission already consist of 15 members with the State Fire Marshall who is a permanent member, to add two more members to an already large Commission makes no sense.

As far as requiring at least three members from the fire service to any committees for rule changes this also makes no sense. As I indicated I have been on many of these committees over the years and the Director has always been very careful to include representatives from the fire service as well as a very balanced committee makeup.

This is the Construction Code Commission and its makeup should consist overwhelmingly by people in the construction industry, the fire service has the Fire Prevention Code which is the maintenance component of the built environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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